GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2560
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2002
INDIAN SCIENCE CONGRESS
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 89th Session of the Indian Science Congresswas held in Lucknow and inaugurated by the Prime Minister on 3rd January 2002;

(b) if so, the main purpose of this session;

(c) whether it is a fact that the new policy is under preparation;

(d) if so, the main reasons for delay;

(e) the time by which the new science policy is likely to be announced;

(f) whether in view of the assurance given by the Prime Minister at the concluding Lucknow session of Indian Science Congress, the Finance Ministry has been urged to allocate more funds for scientific research in the country;

(g) if so, the total funds proposed to be allocated;

(h) whether the allocation for scientific research proposed to be provided in the Tenth Plan period also;

(i) if so, the details thereof;

(j) whether recommendations of the earlier session of Indian Science Congress have since been implemented; and

(k) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The purpose of the annual session of the Indian Science Congress is for informal exchange of information among the scientists/technologists/ researchers of various levels. There are also presentation of papers/posters on the focal theme of the session. The focal theme of the 89th Session of Indian Science Congress was on `Health Care, Education & Information Technology`. The Congress also formulates recommendations on the focal theme for consideration by the Government.

(c), (d) & (e) Consultation processes for the formulation of the National Science & Technology Policy have been completed to enable the submission of the draft Policy document to the Government for an early decision.

(f), (g),(h) & (i) The Honourable Prime Minister has said in the 89th Indian Science Congressat Lucknow about the increase of total national R&D investments to GDP toaround 2% in the last year of the 10th Plan and move ahead to meet this target inspite of constraints.

(j) & (k) The recommendations of the earlier session of Indian Science Congress have been circulated to various ministries/departments/agencies for getting the views and for follow-up actions.